

Please find below, Utah State Parks news for April 12:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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stateparks.utah.gov

- Boat Safe This Summer, Take A Boating Safety Course
- Off-Highway Vehicle Education Courses Available
- Dry Storage Available at East Canyon State Park
- Reserve Riverside Campground at Rockport State Park
- Utah State Parks Events

BOAT SAFE THIS SUMMER, TAKE A BOATING SAFETY COURSE

Salt Lake City – National boating accident data show that only 20% of boaters involved in accidents have taken a boating safety course. Reduce your chance of being involved in an accident and save money on your boat or personal watercraft (PWC) insurance by taking a boating safety course.

In Utah, youth 12 through 17 are required to take an approved boating safety course before operating a PWC (Jet Ski, Waverunner, etc.). Boat operators of all ages are encouraged to take a boating safety course to reduce accidents and complaints on Utah's crowded boating waters.

Mandatory youth PWC and voluntary adult boating safety courses are available online. Each course costs \$34.95 and can be completed in approximately four hours. Upon completion, a temporary safety certificate can be printed immediately, and a permanent certificate is sent via mail.

Boat owners can save up to 25% on boat insurance by attending and completing a boating safety course and providing the completion certificate to their insurance company.

For information about approved boat safety courses visit stateparks.utah.gov, cgaux.org or call 801-538-BOAT.

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OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ONLINE EDUCATION COURSES AVAILABLE

Salt Lake City -- In an effort to meet growing demand for off-highway vehicle (OHV) youth education courses, Utah State Parks and Recreation offers online courses at stateparks.utah.gov/ohv.

Each course offers different teaching styles to address various learning needs. Course fees are \$30 and cover ATVs, off-highway motorcycles and side-by-side ATVs. Upon successful completion of course work, students print a temporary certificate and later receive a permanent certificate by mail.

Utah law requires youth ages eight to 15, and those without a valid driver's license, to complete an approved OHV and/or snowmobile education course before operating on public lands, roads, or trails. It is illegal for any child under age eight to operate an OHV or snowmobile on public land.

Utah State Parks and Recreation is the state OHV authority providing safety information, education, accident investigation and search and rescue.

For more information, visit stateparks.utah.gov/ohv call 800-OHV-RIDE (648-7433). RIDE ON!

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DRY STORAGE AVAILABLE AT EAST CANYON STATE PARK

Morgan – Dry boat storage for the 2011 boating season is now available at East Canyon State Park. Purchase three or four months and receive one month free.

Spaces are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. To request an application, please call 801-829-6866 or e-mail jeffdale@utah.gov.

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RESERVE RIVERSIDE CAMPGROUND AT ROCKPORT STATE PARK

Peoa – Campsites at Riverside Campground, located below the dam at Rockport State Park, are now available through the Utah State Parks reservation system. This popular area was previously available only on a first-come first-served basis. Seven new sites have been added for a total of 17 primitive campsites available for \$10 per vehicle per night.

Reservations are accepted May 1 to September 30 and can be made online at stateparks.utah.gov or by calling 801-322-3770 or 800-322-3770.

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UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

April 23 Antelope Island State Park – Syracuse
Easter Egg Hunt: Join park employees and Friends of Antelope Island for an Easter egg hunt at the Bridger Bay day-use beach area at 8:30 a.m. 801-773-2941

April 29 – 30 Snow Canyon State Park – Ivins

Reptiles: Southern Utah has the greatest number of reptiles in the state because it is in a transition zone between the Mojave Desert, Great Basin Desert, and the Colorado Plateau. Join Wildlife Biologist Ann McLuckie at 6:30 p.m. to learn about their unique desert adaptations during an evening slide show. On Saturday, join us on a morning hike to look for signs of reptiles and make your own snake. 435-628-2255

April 30 Dead Horse Point State Park - Moab

Sunset Hike: Join us at 7 p.m. for an hour-long hike around Dead Horse Point. Experience changing light and shadows, wildlife and stunning scenery on this mile-long hike. Be sure to bring good shoes, plenty of water, a hat and sunscreen. Meet at the Dead Horse Point overlook. 435-259-2614

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